

SIMP O'DILL



OH A REVOLVER. I WONDER IF IT IS LOADED - I WONDER



I BET IT AINT LOADED. FOLKS DONT LEAVE LOADED REVOLVERS LAYING AROUND - THEY DONT



I DONT SEE ANY BULLETS IN IT. I DONT



WELL THIS IS THE BEST WAY TO TELL IT IS.



YEP! IT IS!

THE NEBB'S

Into The Smuggler's Clutches

By SOL HESS



DADDY, TELL ME THE REST OF THE STORY ABOUT THE DIAMOND SMUGGLERS - WHERE YOU LEFT OFF YOU HAD THEM COVERED WITH YOUR REVOLVER - DID THEY SURRENDER? REMEMBER WHEN YOU TOOK OFF YOUR MAKE-UP AND TOLD THEM WHO YOU WERE.

OH YES - THE TWO PROMISED TO SURRENDER WHEN -



THE OTHER FELLOW WHOM I HAD LEFT UNCONSCIOUS IN THE CLOSET STAGGERED INTO THE ROOM AND PRESSED A BUTTON AND I COULD FEEL THE FLOOR GIVING WAY UNDER ME - I TURNED JUST IN TIME TO SEE HIM BUT IT WAS TOO LATE.



IT WAS A TRAP DOOR AND I FELL INTO THE DARKNESS - I DONT MIND TELLING I WAS A BIT FRIGHTENED AND IT ISNT EASY TO SCARE ME -



AS I FELL THROUGH THE FLOOR I DROPPED MY GUN BUT LUCKILY I HAD MY FLASHLIGHT IN MY POCKET AND WITH IT I DISCOVERED A DOOR BUT FOUND IT LOCKED.



I KNEW THAT THEY WOULD SHORTLY COME THROUGH THIS DOOR EXPECTING TO FIND ME UNCONSCIOUS AND HELPLESS SO I CROUCHED BESIDE THE DOOR AND TRUE TO MY PREDICTION, I HEARD A KEY SOFTLY INSERTED INTO THE LOCK.



AS THE LAST MAN ENTERED, I SILENTLY DARTED OUT AND DOWN THE HALL BEFORE THEY REALIZED I HAD GONE.



I RECOVERED MY COAT AND HAT WHICH I HAD DISCARDED WHEN I DISGUISED MYSELF AND TRANSFERRED THE DIAMONDS TO MY COAT POCKET WHEN I HEARD THEM COMING DOWN THE HALL.



QUICK AS A FLASH I GRABBED THE END OF THE HALL RUG AND WITH MY GREAT STRENGTH GAVE IT A PULL AND UPSET THEM.



BUT LUCK WAS AGAINST ME - AS I PULLED THE RUG I FELL BACKWARD UPSETTING A HEAVY STATUE WHICH FELL ON MY HEAD, KNOCKING ME UNCONSCIOUS.



WHILE I WAS UNCONSCIOUS THEY TOOK THE DIAMONDS FROM MY POCKET AND CARRIED ME DOWN THE BACK STAIRS AS THE REAR OF THE HOUSE WAS ON THE RIVER'S EDGE.



THEY DROPPED ME INTO THE BOTTOM OF THE BOAT AND ONE OF THEM STARTED THE BOAT DOWN THE RIVER TO THE BAY, EVIDENTLY WITH THE INTENTION OF DROPPING ME OVER BOARD.



NO OF COURSE NOT, BUT I HAD A MIGHTY CLOSE CALL - I DONT THINK ANYONE WOULD HAVE GIVEN 2 CENTS FOR MY LIFE ABOUT THAT TIME AND ILL TELL YOU THE REST SOME OTHER TIME.

To be continued

L. A. C. 5-5

